

FLIGHT JACKET

Marine Corps Merit Award winning newspaper

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Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

April 30, 2010

Assistant commandant visits air station



Cpl. Aubry L. Buzek

Assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James F. Amos, speaks to the Marines in fixed-wing squadrons aboard Marine Corps Air Station Miramar at the flight line here April 26. Amos visited the air station to speak with Marines and tour quality-of-life facilities.

Cpl. Aubry L. Buzek

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

The assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. James F. Amos, and his wife Bonnie toured the air station April 27.

Throughout the day, Amos met with Marines from the rotary, fixed wing and support squadrons, and visited quality-of-life programs and centers aboard the air station.

During Amos' time with the

squadrons, he talked about many issues affecting Marines, both on a national and international level. One of the main topics throughout the day was the mission in Afghanistan.

"We want to provide enough security while they build an army and police force so they can govern themselves," said Amos. "As a nation, what we want to do is help build a central government. Marines are doing business the right way in Afghanistan."

Marines also brought up many relevant topics during the question and answer sessions, including the plan for upcoming discussions about the possible repeal of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, tattoos in the Marine Corps and testing of "spice," a common designer drug being used in the Marine Corps.

Being a former aviator and the commanding general of 3rd

GO TO **ACMC**, PAGE 3

'Stomping out sexual assault'

Miramar commanders sign awareness proclamation

Lance Cpl. Alexandra M. Harris

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Conant, the commanding general of 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, I Marine Expeditionary Force, and Col. Frank A. Richie, the commanding officer of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, signed a proclamation for Sexual Assault Awareness Month at the 3rd MAW Headquarters building here April 19.

The proclamation states that 3rd MAW recognizes April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and how 3rd MAW will help prevent sexual assault.

"Preventing sexual assault focuses on the ability of every service member, especially those in the leadership, to build a climate of respect in which sexual assault will not be tolerated," stated the proclamation.

It also affirms this year's

GO TO **ASSAULT**, PAGE 3

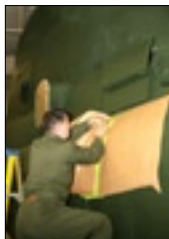


Lance Cpl. Alexandra M. Harris

Gunnery Sgt. Jennifer Sanchez, the staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the maintenance management office at Marine Wing Support Group 37, traces the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing commanding general Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Conant's footprint onto a Sexual Assault Awareness Month banner at 3rd MAW Headquarters April 19. Conant also signed a proclamation that stated that 3rd MAW would not tolerate sexual assault.

MCAS Miramar
Web site

www.miramar.usmc.mil



HMM-165 RESTORES A PIECE OF MARINE CORPS HISTORY

Marines from HMM-165 restore the historic CH-46E "Lady Ace 09" which was instrumental in a key operation in Vietnam. For full story, see page 6.



COMING FULL CIRCLE: DAUGHTER PILOTS HEROIC FATHER'S AIRCRAFT

A "Sea Knight" pilot from HMM-166 follows in father's footsteps and flies the same aircraft he did while serving in Vietnam. For full story, see page 5.

REACH US



EDITORIAL
858-577-6000

FLIGHT JACKET



**Maj. Gen.
Thomas L. Conant**
Commanding General
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing



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Commanding Officer
MCAS Miramar

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Marines get 'schooled' on college education benefits



Lance Cpl. Steven H. Posy

Sgt. Nicholas C. Lansdown, a mechanic at Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 16, speaks to a representative from San Diego State University during the education fair at The Hub here April 21. Lansdown hopes to earn a degree in criminal justice.

**Lance Cpl.
Steven H. Posy**
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

As visiting different college campuses with hopes of choosing the right school can be a challenging task, having the schools come to you makes the process much easier.

More than 50 colleges, vocational and technical schools the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Education Fair at The Hub April 20.

The school's representatives set up booths displaying school logos, applications and free gifts for service members, spouses and their children.

"This is our first Marine event, and I am very excited to be here," said Stefanie Beebe, a military student advisor at Colorado Technical University Online. "It is a great opportunity for us, and we have received a great response from the Marines here today."

One Marine attended the fair looking to find a specific institution.

"I am looking to earn a degree in criminal justice, and I am interested in one school in

particular," said Sgt. Nicholas C. Lansdown, a mechanic at Marine Aviation Logistics Group 16. "I was happy to find them here and got the information that I was looking for."

Lansdown spoke with a representative from San Diego State University at the fair.

The fair also featured college preparation classes, assistance with applications, free applications for federal student aid and scholarship information. Representatives from the institutions got the word out about their schools and answered questions about their programs.

Gunnery Sgt. Joshua G. Soliz, the education services officer with the Education Center here, also provided information about the military education benefits.

"We are handing out new books and answering questions, but most importantly we are explaining eligibility and the differences between the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post 9-11 GI Bill," said Soliz.

Miramar hosts the education fair every six months. For more information, call the Education Center at 858-577-1801.

"WE WIN!"



SemperToons: Created by GySgt C. F. Wolf (USMC Ret.)

Religious Services

The Chaplain's Office, located in Building 5632 on Bauer Road, coordinates regularly scheduled services. For the location and meeting schedules of religious activities, call 858-577-1333, or visit

www.miramar.usmc.mil.

Sunday:

9 a.m. Protestant Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Protestant Children's Worship

11 a.m. Roman Catholic Eucharist

Religious Education/Sunday:

9:30 – 10:45 a.m. Catholic CCD Children K-12

10 a.m. Protestant Adult Bible Study

Weekday Worship Service:

Mon. – Fri. 11:30 a.m. Catholic Mass

Mon. 6:30 p.m. Contemporary Praise and Worship Service

Wed. 7 p.m. Baptist Service

Study Groups:

Mon. 7 p.m. Night Bible Study, Classroom in the Chapel area

Tues. 6 a.m. Morning Prayer Service and Study Group

Islamic Worship Service:

Fri. at noon.

Located in the Chapel or visit www.icsd.org

Jewish:

Jewish Outreach at 858-571-3444

www.jewishinsandiego.org

Flash media storage not authorized in government computers

MARADMIN (647/08) prohibits the use of removable flash media storage devices to include:

- Flash / Thumb drives
- Memory Sticks
- Camera Flash Memory Cards
- Any Portable Firmware Storage Device



Now available on
facebook.

ACMC,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Marine Aircraft Wing, Amos explained how proud he was to be back to hear the jet engines roaring down the flight line.

"This is home for us," said Amos to the Marine medium helicopter squadrons' formation. "I saw Marines from these squadrons park themselves in known minefields to save Marines' lives."

Between visiting the squadrons, Amos also visited different quality-of-life centers aboard the air station, including the Child, Youth and Teen Center, a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design "Gold" winning building, which opened in February.

"I am impressed," said Amos. "I want my grandchildren to go to this place!"

After visiting the center, Amos was treated to a tour of the Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Therapy Clinic, where he met with the personal trainers and talked to the Marines participating in physical therapy.

"You've been on that machine for 51 minutes?" Amos asked Petty Officer 3rd Class Zachary Green, a hospital corps-

man from the Branch Medical Clinic here who was working on a rehabilitation and strength machine.

"Yes, sir," replied Green.

"Are you crazy?!" asked Amos.

"Negative, sir!" snapped the young sailor.

Although the assistant commandant spoke mainly to Marines and sailors aboard the air station, Bonnie made sure to address the support behind the scenes – the families.

"Go home, wrap your arms around them and thank them, they are a strong force," said Bonnie Amos. "Without you and without them, we wouldn't have the team to be as successful as we are on this war on terrorism."

Spending almost nine hours visiting the squadrons and speaking with the Marines about different topics brought up in discussions, one thing stayed the same no matter where he went – Amos' thanks and pride for Marines and the Marine Corps.

"Thanks for being Marines," said Amos. "I'm proud of you, and I'm proud of what we do every day ... I mean that with all of my heart."

ASSAULT,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

awareness theme, which is "Hurts one. Affects all ... Preventing sexual assault is everyone's duty."

"Sexual assault is one of the most unreported crimes," said Latricia Kamins, the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program manager here. "The proclamation shows that sexual assault is not compatible with the Marine Corps ethos and that there is zero tolerance for it."

After signing the procla-

mation, both Conant and Richie signed and traced footprints on a banner which had the title "Leadership is stomping out sexual assault."

Once both commanding officers finished, COs and sergeants major of several different squadrons also signed and traced footprints onto the banner.

"By showing that the top command wants to eliminate sexual assault, it will be an incentive for Marines to come forward," said Kamins. "Their commands do care, and they will treat them with dignity and fairness."

MCAS Miramar reminds everyone to recycle plastics, paper, cardboard and electronics at the Miramar Recycling Center.

HMM-465 under new enlisted leader



Sgt. Maj. James R. Lucas
OUTGOING SERGEANT MAJOR

Compiled by Flight Jacket Staff

Sgt. Maj. James R. Lucas, the sergeant major of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462 "Heavy Haulers," was relieved by Sgt. Maj. Delvin R. Smythe in a ceremony here April 27.

Smythe comes to the squadron after serving as first sergeant at 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, where he deployed to Iraq with Charlie Company in 2007 and to Afghanistan with Delta Company in 2009.

Smythe enlisted in the Marine Corps on Oct. 14, 1987 and attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. After completing the Motor Vehicle Operator's Course at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., he received orders to the Ground Defense Security Forces, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in April 1988.

In August 1990, Smythe deployed to Saudi Arabia in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

From August 1994 to August 1997, Smythe served as an Assistant Section Leader and Section Leader at the Camp Pendleton Base Brig before being promoted to staff sgt. and transferring to the Joint Forces Brig, Okinawa, Japan. In January 2001 he was promoted to gunnery sergeant and was instrumental in the re-opening of the Correctional Custody program in Okinawa where he held the billet of Correctional Custody Unit staff non commissioned officer in charge.

Smythe's personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two gold stars, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with one gold star, the Outstanding Volunteer Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon.



Sgt. Maj. Delvin R. Smythe
INCOMING SERGEANT MAJOR

Sergeant Major James R. Lucas, a native of Cincinnati, enlisted in the Marine Corps in September 1981. Upon completion of recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., Lucas attended the Infantry Training School at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.

In November 1983, Lucas volunteered to take the reconnaissance screening and was accepted to Charlie Company, 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion. He attended Amphibious Reconnaissance School, Little Creek, Va., and Special Forces Combatant Diving School, Key West, Fla. July 1987, he was ordered to Charlie Company, 3rd Recon Bn., 3rd MarDiv, Okinawa, Japan.

January 1999, Lucas reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., for duty as a drill instructor with Alpha Company, 1st Recruit Training Battalion.

May 2002, Lucas reported to 1st Recon Bn., 1st MarDiv, MCB Camp Pendleton. After deploying with 1st Recon Bn., for Operation Iraqi Freedom, he reported to the First Sergeants Course in Quantico, Va.

February 2007, Lucas reported to Charlie Company, 1st Bn., 4th Marines, and deployed to OIF 6-08.

March 2008, Lucas posted to Heavy Marine Helicopter Squadron 465 as the squadron sergeant major.

On June 30, 2009, Lucas posted to Heavy Marine Helicopter Squadron 462 as the squadron sergeant major to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Lucas's personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendations Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal with a combat



An MV-22 Osprey with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 261, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), here, lifts off from the flightline. The Osprey continues to prove a valuable asset for “shrinking the battle space” in 3rd MAW (FWD)’s operations area, flying faster and farther than any assault support aircraft in the region.

Ospreys Flying High, Fast Supporting War

**Story and Photo by
Gunnery Sgt.
Steven Williams**
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan — “You guys ready to go fast?”

Those are the last words from the pilot before the MV-22 Osprey catapults in midair and in one fluid movement switches from a vertical-lift aircraft into a horizontally-propelled airplane within seconds. You’re strapped in with shoulder harnesses and a lap belt, but you can’t help but hold on to your seat as the aircraft jettisons out on its next mission.

The Marines of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 261, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), here, are used to it now. While other Marines onboard, especially first-timers, are in for a wild ride, the Osprey crew is focused on the mission-at-hand.

“We fly all over Helmand province, and sometimes further, in support of ground operations, taking people to and from the fight, and fast,” said Staff Sgt. John Godwin, a Loxley, Ala., native serving as a flight equipment technician and aerial observer for VMM-261.

That’s more than 260 knots fast, or nearly

300 mph. The Osprey can move troops and gear much faster than the CH-53E Super Stallion – the Corps’ 29-year-old, war-tested veteran for some of the same tasks.

“This aircraft obviously brings the speed and distance that no other assault support aircraft has,” explained Godwin. The Osprey’s impressive capabilities “shrink the battle space” according to many leaders here – a valuable attribute when dealing with the expanse of the barren and rugged terrain the birds fly over.

It’s a mission Godwin and the other VMM-261 Marines take a lot of pride in.

“It feels good to get back off a seven-hour flight knowing that all of our tasking for that day was completed. There are so many moving parts and setbacks that come into play in a day’s worth of tasking, but we somehow manage to work through them on a daily basis and get the job done. That’s what I like.”

It seems almost wrong to call this “hard work” as the Marines enjoy the job so much and have the opportunity to fly on an aerial roller coast of sorts. But the effort the VMM-261 Marines put into getting the Marines, supplies and gear delivered across the region is undeniable. It’s just an added workplace benefit when the Marines can give the pilot the thumbs up when he asks “you guys ready to go fast?”

Wounded warrior speaks to rotary club members



Cpl. Aubry L. Buzek

Thomas Richards, president of the Miramar Semper Fidelis Rotary Club, thanks retired Master Sgt. David Lind, a wounded warrior, after his speaking appearance at the Officers’ Club here April 22.

Cpl. Aubry L. Buzek
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

“I’m a knife carrying, knuckle dragging, trigger-pulling machine,” said retired Master Sgt. David Lind during the Miramar Semper Fidelis Rotary Club meeting at the Officers’ Club here April 22.

Lind attended the meeting as a guest speaker to talk about his experiences in combat as a Marine and wounded warrior.

Lind, a Pennsylvania native, joined the Marine Corps in 1989. After serving as an enlisted rifleman in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Lind became an instructor at the School of Infantry, West, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. In 1996, Lind became indoctrinated into the reconnaissance field and received orders to 1st Reconnaissance Battalion.

Over the next 11 years, Lind deployed with the battalion to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom three times. On his last deployment, however, tragedy struck.

In June 2007, Lind’s vehicle was hit by a pressure plate activated improvised explosive device. The blast from the IED severed his legs from the knee down.

During the meeting, Lind told the story of his recovery. He described how after the blast he was moved to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., where doctors told him he wouldn’t

be able to walk on prosthetics for at least a year. The problem was, though, that Lind was about to be promoted to master sergeant.

“I told them, ‘I am going to walk at my promotion ceremony,’” said Lind.

With some “Marine Corps stubbornness and the attitude I couldn’t be told what to do,” Lind walked exactly two months from the day of his injury, right up to get the extra rocker on his rank insignia.

His perseverance and ability to meet great challenges are exactly why the rotary club members asked him to speak at their meeting.

“Not many people know a wounded warrior,” said Mike Stelman, one of the founding members of the club. “To see his recovery and see him move on as a fine human being is informative and inspirational.”

Although Lind spoke to everyone at the meeting, he also addressed the active-duty Marines listening to him speak.

“Value the time in uniform that you have right now,” said Lind. “Your worst day in uniform is better than your best day out of it. I say that from the bottom of my heart.”

Although Lind is retired now, he continues to speak regularly about his experiences to help spread awareness and gain support for wounded warriors.

Fights of our fathers

HMM-166 pilot flies father's helicopter 41 years later

**Story and Photos by
Cpl. Christopher A. O'Quin**

COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

A young CH-46E "Sea Knight" pilot by the name of 1st Lt. Joseph P. Donovan, serving with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364 "Purple Foxes" in the Quang Nam Province of Vietnam, risked his life to medically evacuate seriously wounded Marines from an open rice paddy while taking heavy machine gun fire.

After taking the first batch of casualties to a hospital in Da Nang with his heavily damaged helicopter, he took control of a second Sea Knight and returned to evacuate the seriously wounded, again braving intense machine gun fire.

A pilot who recently returned from deployment with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 166 visited HMM-364 April 21, to step into the same cockpit of the second Sea Knight Donovan flew exactly 41 years ago. This pilot was none other than his daughter, Capt. Eileen C. Donovan.

She got the idea for the flight after her father visited when she returned from a deployment with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

"Recently her father came by and visited the squadron and noticed that the same Sea Knight he flew in was here," said Capt. Buckshot N. Mattson, a pilot with the squadron. "He and his daughter talked to the [commanding officer] and [executive officer] about her flying in the phrog, and it got approved through the chain of

command."

Her father couldn't join her for the flight, but is never the less happy his daughter flew in the long-lived aircraft.

"The fact is she is an accomplished, skilled, dedicated and resourceful Marine and pilot, and the fact that she flew the same aircraft I once did is truly remarkable," said her father. "I couldn't be more proud of her."

Eileen flew it throughout Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton performing landings and take-offs at various sites during an hour-long flight.

"The whole time I've been a phrog pilot I've thought, 'wouldn't it be awesome if I could fly the same bird my dad's flown,'" she said. "It's a career maker, and I can retire happy now because I've flown the helicopter."

"The aircraft's longevity of service is a great testament to the maintainers and crew chiefs," she continued. "We could not do our jobs without all the ground crews, and they are the heart and soul of an aviation squadron."

For Donovan, this flight's timing couldn't be any better.

"Our squadron is going to begin the transition to an Osprey squadron next month when we have our change of command," reflected the "Sea Elk." "This is absolutely the last chance I'll have to fly this Sea Knight and probably one of the last couple flights in the phrog, as sad as it is."

Even though her chapter as a CH-46E pilot is coming to an end, the next chapter for this Sea Knight is unwritten, as future pilots will once again pilot it to rescue the wounded in some distant battlefield.



Capt. Eileen C. Donovan stands with the same CH-46E "Sea Knight" helicopter her father, Joseph P. Donovan, flew during combat operations 41 years ago in Vietnam.



Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364 still keeps a photo of Donovan's father, Joseph P. Donovan, a highly decorated pilot who once served with the "Purple Foxes."



Donovan pauses after landing the helicopter her father flew 41 years ago during her visit to Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364 April 21. Donovan's father, Joseph P. Donovan, earned a Navy Cross for his heroic actions in that helicopter while serving in Vietnam in 1969.

HMM-165 Marines remember, restore aerial hero of Saigon

**Story and Photos by
Cpl. Aubry L. Buzek**
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

A CH-46E “Sea Knight” helicopter sits in a lot among many other historical aircraft; reserve squadron markings tell of its last home, but no physical markings represent its true history. Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165 changed that.

The Sea Knight, currently housed at the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum, is “Lady Ace 09,” a Vietnam-era chopper that has a history as rich as the squadron itself.

In July 1965, the squadron formed when the Marine Corps transitioned from the UH-34D helicopter, made by Sikorsky, to the CH-46A “Sea Knight,” made by Boeing. In October 1966, the “White Knights” headed to the Republic of Vietnam.

Lady Ace 09 came off of the production line in 1968 and was assigned with three different squadrons before joining HMM-165 in Vietnam in July 1973.

During the final days of the Vietnam War, as the North Vietnamese Army advanced on Saigon, the Ford administration began planning an evacuation of all American personnel and as many south Vietnamese refugees as they could. The evacuation would become “Operation Frequent Wind.”

On April 29, 1975, an American radio station began playing Irving Berlin’s “White Christmas,” which was the signal for American personnel to move to evacuation points in the city.

Throughout the day and into the night, 80 circulating helicopters evacuated more than 978 Americans and 1100 Vietnamese refugees from the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. In the early hours of April 30, Lady Ace 09, piloted by HMM-165 Marine Col. Gerry Berry, descended onto the landing pad of the embassy to extract one of the last remaining evacuees. At 4:58 a.m., the U.S. Ambassador to South Vietnam, Graham A. Martin boarded the helicopter with a U.S. flag. Less than eight hours later, the NVA raised the National Liberation Front for South Vietnam flag over the Presidential Palace, signifying the end of the Vietnam War.

After the war, Lady Ace 09 continued

serving with the White Knights until the helicopter was transferred to HMM-774, Marine Aircraft Group 49, 4th Marine Air Wing. In 2004, Lady Ace 09 came to her final home, the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum.

Now, 35 years after the evacuation and six years since her San Diego arrival, four noncommissioned officers took the responsibility of giving the helicopter her “true colors.”

Sgts. Joseph Dickens III, Andrew Kelly, Justin Boone and Jason Penrod spent more than a week and a half painting and remarking the helicopter, based off of a photograph taken during the evacuation.

“That was its moment in history,” said George Welsh, archivist at the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum. “We want to bring it back to that moment, no matter what it looked like.”

According to Welsh, staying true to the original look of the helicopter was one of the most important considerations when restoring the aircraft.

“You have to be historically accurate or the next generation will get the wrong message,” said Welsh. “It’s very important to maintain examples for that younger generation.”

Even though the museum restores historical aircraft all the time, Welsh said it was a good thing that the squadron took control of the job.

“They are more familiar with the airframe,” said Welsh. “They’re experts ... This is their history, this is your history as a Marine.”

Although the Marines spent many hours restoring the helicopter back to its appearance on that historic day in Vietnam, the true achievement is what they provided to future generations, not the paint.

“This aircraft was used in a particularly significant moment in our nation’s history,” said Welsh. “You have to be historically accurate or the next generation will get the wrong message.”

The final look of the aircraft was unveiled at a dedication ceremony at the museum here, April 30, where Marines dressed in Vietnam-era uniforms re-enacted the legendary moment for crowds of Marines and veterans.



“Lady Ace 09,” a CH-46E “Sea Knight” helicopter piloted by Capt. Gerry Berry, hovers over the American Embassy in Saigon to evacuate Ambassador Graham Martin April 30, 1975. The event became the signal of the end of the Vietnam War.



Sgts. Andrew Kelly and Joshua Dickens, airframes and hydraulics technicians with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165, work on painting a CH-46E helicopter at the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum restoration facility here April 6. The helicopter the Marines are working on is “Lady Ace 09,” which was used to evacuate the ambassador during the fall of Vietnam.



“Lady Ace 09,” a CH-46E “Sea Knight” helicopter at the Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum, was repainted and remarked in March by Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 165 airframes Marines. The restoration updated the helicopter to her look during the Vietnam War.



Lance Cpl. Steven H. Posy
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

Editor's note: Lance Cpl. Posy is a regular contributor to the sports section of the Flight Jacket and an avid sports fan.

NBA playoffs stage for heroic performances

As the week winded down, some teams smelled blood in the water and went for the kill, while others backed away shamefully and attempted to defend themselves.

Buzzer beaters and game-winning heroics highlighted week two of the NBA playoffs and established the heroes from the zeroes.

The Magic, Cavs, Spurs, Jazz and Celtics established their dominance during the first round, needing one more win to advance.

Meanwhile, Portland, Phoenix, Atlanta, Milwaukee, Oklahoma and Los Angeles were left fighting for control of the series.

One thing has become obvious from the past two weeks. Stellar performances has staged high-drama and great games, but none as impressive as LeBron's triple double against the Bulls and Dwyane Wade's one man show against Boston in game four.

Unfortunately for Wade, the rest of his Miami Heat were on vacation this post season and forced him to put on his cape and

win game four by himself.

While Wade's 46-point, super heroic performance against the Celtics measured up as one of the greatest single-effort victories in NBA history, and kept his team from being eliminated, things don't look good for Miami overall.

"King James" reigned over the Bulls in a dominant 21-point victory in game four. James, who scored 37 points combined 12 rebounds with 11 assists to add a fifth triple double to his post-season stats. The rest of the Cavs stepped up to shut down the Bull's offense as they took a 3-1 lead in the series.

While no one forecasted thunder in Los Angeles, Oklahoma City rained on the Laker's parade and struck with Kevin Durant to shut out Kobe Bryant while dropping 22 points and grabbing 19 rebounds to even the series at 2-2.

While some teams have stepped up to back their star players, others have backed

down. None of which are more of an example than the Dallas Mavericks who, like school girls in a barfight, have decided to go home early this post season.

Dallas faces elimination, down three games to one against the Spurs and with the exception of their superstar Dirk Nowitzki, the rest of the Mavs are no where to be found during this disappointing 2010 playoff appearance.

The Denver Nuggets are also embarrassing themselves this post season, looking confused without their head coach George Karl telling them what to do. Down three games to one in the series, the Nuggets season looks hopeless right now.

The bullies have beaten up the runts of the league and have weeded out the weak during the first round. This will lead to some good old-fashioned showdowns between hungry teams and will result in better matchups in the second round.

CPFL champions train like they play



Lance Cpl. Alexandra M. Harris

Lance Cpl. Brett Allen, an aviation supply specialist with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 11, Marine Aircraft Group 11, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, I Marine Expeditionary Force, and Pfc. Kris Brown, an administration clerk with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, sprint during preseason football training here April 27. Both are training with the MCAS Miramar tackle football team, the "Falcons." The Falcons are currently the Camp Pendleton Football League champions and will begin their regular season in the fall.

Marines pitch in for La Jolla Half Marathon



Cpl. Christopher A. O'Quin

DEL MAR FAIRGROUNDS, Calif. - Gunnery Sgt. Jose A. Maldonado, a volunteer and watch commander for 2nd Platoon and Lance Cpl. Jeremy C. Ransom, a military policeman, both with Provost Marshal's Office, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, help kick off the 29th Annual La Jolla Half Marathon at the starting line in the Del Mar Fairgrounds parking lot April 25. More than 30 Marines from the air station volunteered during the run and cheered on approximately 5,800 runners.

3D MAW FWD

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FRIDAY 30 SATURDAY 1 SUNDAY 2 MONDAY 3 TUESDAY 4 WEDNESDAY 5 THURSDAY 6

• **8-Ball Pool Tournament for Enlisted Active Duty**
7:30 p.m.
The Great Escape
858-577-6171

• **Now – May 14**
Youth Flag Football
Registration for 5-16 year olds
Youth Beach Volleyball
8-16 years old
Youth Cheerleading
5-13 year olds,
Youth Golf Lessons
8-16 year olds
for more information contact
858-577-6959

WEEKLY EVENTS...

- Sports Complex Marine Teen training Tues. & Sat. 858-577-4128/4129
- Deployment support for preschoolers, elementary and teenagers Mon. through Wed. 858-577-4588
- QOL Golf: Two Hours After Twilight free Golf for Active Duty 858-577-4155

• **Family Fun Fitness Festival**
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Food, Fun & Games
Miramar Commissary

• **9-Ball Pool Tournament for Enlisted Active Duty**
7:30 p.m.
The Great Escape
858-577-6171



MCCS free prize giveaways...
Entertainment Ticket Office
ITT/Travel Office: Medieval Times Gift Pack. Stop in and fill out an entry form today! Winners will be drawn on May 28.



• **Life Skills Class “Four Lenses”**
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
LINKS House
858-577-4473 to register

• **Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon Meetings**
6:30 p.m.,
Counseling Center
858-577-6585

Shop at the MCX

Mother’s Day Sale
April 28 – May 9

Just for Mom Fragrance Sale
April 28 – May 9

• **QOL Golf: Two Hours After Twilight Starts FREE Golf for Miramar Active Duty**
858-577-4155

• **Adecco Staffing Agency Visit, 9 a.m. -12 p.m., Career Resource Center, 858-577-6710**

• **L.I.N.K.S. Session for Spouses (Part 1)**
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
L.I.N.K.S. House
858-577-4810 to register

• **Choose to Lose Program – Work Out with a Trainer**
9 a.m. and 6 p.m., Semper Fit Center, 858-577-4674

• **New Parent Support Play Morning**
9:30 – 11 am
Milcon Park
858-577-9812

• **S.E.A.M.S. Meeting, 12 – 1 p.m., The Hub**
858-577-6491

• **L.I.N.K.S. Session for Spouses (Part 2)**
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
L.I.N.K.S. House
858-577-4810

• **Family Readiness Volunteer Training**
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
MCFTB Conference Room
858-577-1322

• **FREE Golf Clinic for Active Duty**
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Golf Course, 858-577-4155

Paintball Mega Arena open every Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. east of the Miramar Inn 619-228-4446.

• **Choose to Lose Program – Work Out with a Trainer,**
9 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Semper Fit Center
858-577-4674

• **Life Skills Class “Family Care Plan”**
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
LINKS House
858-577-4473 to register



“Providing over 100 programs for you and your family”



- ★ Marine & Family Services
- ★ Marine Corps Family Team Building
- ★ Semper Fit & Recreation
- ★ Free Special Events
- ★ Dining & Clubs
- ★ Shopping & Services

“Serving Those Who Serve”
www.mccsmiramar.com

NEW PARENT SUPPORT PLAYMORNINGS

Play mornings are open to all parents and children who are members of the military family (active duty, dependents, retired, Reserves, DOD employees). Play morning is a chance for parents and children to come together and spend time having fun and connecting with other parents and children. Look for us on Tuesdays at Officers’ Park from 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Please call 858-577-9812 for directions.

LIFE SKILLS CLASS – FAMILY CARE PLAN

The “Family Care Plan” class is available to help deployable Marines and their spouses with the medical, legal, financial and logistical planning in the event of a family emergency. Personal or Group Briefings are available. The “Family Care Plan” class will be held on Thursday, May 6 from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The “Family Care Plan” class will be held in the L.I.N.K.S. House and includes lunch. Call 858-577-4473 to register.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Get help paying for child care

Visit the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies Web site at www.naccrra.org to see information on eligibility for assistance to pay for and find child care services. Contact 1-800-424-2246 for more information.

Scion Battle of the Builds

The “Scion Battle of the Builds” is a design competition to have SCION fund construction of the ideal SCION xB, for an all expense paid trip to Las Vegas for up to six team members, for a cash prize

to be shared by the team of designers and builders, for \$2,500 for the Auto Hobby Center that supported their car build, and for \$1,000 for the most popular design proposal not selected as one of the three finalists. Watch for more information on www.scion.com/tuner.

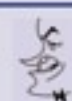
ICE ready for use

The Interactive Customer Evaluation set up for Miramar is ready for use. ICE is the internet version of the “Customer Suggestion Box” and is a Web-based tool that collects feedback on services provided by installations throughout

the Department of Defense. To submit a suggestion visit the ICE Web site at <http://ice.disa.mil>.

UCSD IR/PS Masters Degree

The University of California San Diego IR/PS, has visiting hours on MCAS Miramar from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday and Wednesday of each month. UCSD offers a one year Master of Advanced Studies in International Affairs Executive degree. For more information visit Dana Tucker at the Education Center on the above days or call her at 858-822-4398.



WHAT’S PLAYING...
AT THE BOB HOPE THEATER

Fri. April 30:

Alice in Wonderland (Not in 3-D) (PG) 6:30 p.m.
Green Zone (R) 9:00 p.m..

Sat. May 1:

Swap Meet 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Our Family Wedding (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.
Remember Me (PG-13) 9:00 p.m.

Sun. May 2:

Alice in Wonderland (Not in 3-D) (PG) 1:00 p.m.
*Crazy Heart (R) 6:30 p.m.

Wed. May 5:

Repo Men (R) 6:30 p.m.

Thurs. May 6:

Thurs. May 6:
How to Train Your Dragon (Not in 3-D) (PG) 2:00 p.m.
*Our Family Wedding (PG-13) 6:30 p.m.

**Indicates last showing*

MILITARY TUNER CHALLENGE

Timeline and Overview

An auto, after-market design contest open to teams consisting primarily of active duty service members who compete for SCION to fund the build-out of their ideal SCION xB, for a team's all expenses paid trip to Las Vegas, and for cash prize money for the team and Auto Hobby Shop.

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN PHASE & TEAM ASSEMBLY May 3 - June 11

ON BASE:

- Email Blasts
- Signage
- Website Advertising
- Handbills
- Press Release
- Military Websites
- Military Trade Publications
- Single Service Member Programs
- Auto Hobby Shop Mgr. Support
- Facebook Fans

PROGRAM LAUNCHES May 3, 2010



THROUGH ON BASE AUTO SKILLS CENTERS:

- Teams of 6 Members (min.) Get Together to Formulate Their Design...
- Leader Designer
- Proposal Writer
- Wrench Turners
- Networkers
- Teams Download Tuner Challenge Info Pack, e. g. www.scion.com/tuner
- Teams Submit Formal Build Templates Online (Microsoft Office Software)
- All teams get a SCION Tuner Challenge T-Shirt

VOTING & JUDGING June 16–30

- Interested Observers Who Register Can Review and Vote for 3 Designs
- Proposals will be displayed branch and base blind.
- 3 Best Designs will demonstrate Individualism, Popularity, and Tuner Passion calculated in accordance with rules and scorecard.

For more information and a full listing of rules and regulations visit www.scion.com/tuner